

**BOX — FEE — RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents-  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231.

8-B  
VC3  
1-10

**APPLICANT'S RESPONSE  
TO UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
EXAMINER'S ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Dear Sir:

**I. Introduction**

Applicant is responding to an United States Patent and Trademark Office Examiner's Action issued September 27, 2002. The Action provided Applicant with a shortened statutory period for Applicant's Response of one (1) month, *i.e.*, to October 27, 2002. Applicant has requested a one-month extension of time, from October 27, 2002, to November 27, 2002, for filing the Response. Accordingly, Applicant's Response is timely as it has been filed on November 26, 2002, with a Certificate of Mailing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a).

**II. Amendment**

Please cancel claims 39–44 without prejudice to the reintroduction of the claims in a divisional application.

**III. Remarks**

In the Examiner's Action, the Examiner issued a restriction requirement. Applicant is required to elect between the following two groups of claims:

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| Group I  | Claims 1, 24–38 and 45 drawn to a composition. |
| Group II | Claims 39–44 drawn to methods for improving.   |

Applicant elects the Group I set of claims. The non-elected Group II set of claims has been cancelled without prejudice to the reintroduction of these claims in a divisional application.